MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 NOVEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Israeli Plane Downed — An Israeli Air Force plane was downed during an attack on DFLP, PFLP, and As-Sa'iqah positions along the Beirut-Damascus highway, Jerusalem radio reported, although SANA insisted that Syrian antiaircraft fire downed two Israeli planes. Lebanese security sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that the plane was downed by a SAM-6. The pilot of the downed aircraft parachuted into Lebanese Army positions, where he was later picked up by an Israeli helicopter and returned to Israel, according to Beirut radio and ITIM.

Aftermath of French Air Strikes — In a statement reported by Paris radio, External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson said the French air strikes against Islamic Amal positions in the Al-Biqa' on 18 November were in "legitimate defense" as the French forces "did not attack," but "simply decided to shoot at those who killed our soldiers." Giving further details on the raids, AFP said that Soviet-made SAM-6's were fired at the attacking Super Etendards, while Radio Free Lebanon maintained that the French bombs missed their intended targets.

The leader of the Islamic Amal Movement, Husayn al-Musawi, stated that the attacks came as no surprise and that he expects more such attacks, AFP stated. Radio Free Lebanon cited Al-Musawi as threatening "new acts of aggression against the Multinational Force in Beirut." A leader of the Islamic Amal militia demanded that the French Government "explain" the attacks, adding that the French had acted on "false information" received from Israel. In his remarks, reported by Jerusalem radio, the militia leader also threatened to send "suicide squads" to attack Israeli troops in southern Lebanon in reprisal for raids the Israeli Air Force made against Islamic Amal positions on 16 November.

Meanwhile, inhabitants of An-Nabi Shit, near the bombed Islamic Amal positions, warned Al-Musawi not to return to the township, Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in a statement to AFP — transmitted textually by JANA — charged that the French raid "stirs unlimited anger in everyone who has a conscience and honor" and that all Islamic nations must now be prepared for "a new holy war against the Western nations." In an address to Iranian judicial officials on the Israeli and French raids, broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni asserted that "everyone expects" such actions from Israel, adding that the French attack "disgraced" France and "presented an ugly face to the world."

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan visited Riyadh 19-20 November and held talks with King Fahd and Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on the Lebanese situation, according to Beirut and Riyadh radios and SPA.

On 18 November a Lebanese military mission returned from Damascus, where it met in a "positive" atmosphere with Syrian military leaders, Beirut radio reported. While in Damascus it also met with Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, an Amal Movement military leader, and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Following the delegation's return, the Security Arrangements Committee met and concluded a "complete cease-fire," Beirut radio said. The committee headquarters will be kept open constantly beginning 21 November so that the various participants can "immediately" deal with cease-fire violations before they can spread. Military Developments — Intermittent clashes continued around Lebanese Army positions in the southern suburb of Beirut 18, 19, and 20 November, according to Beirut radio. In the Al-Biqa', Syrian and Israeli forces resumed exchanges of artillery fire, Radio Free Lebanon reported. In other fighting, Lebanese Army positions around Suq al-Gharb continued to come under attack 18-20 November.

PLO Affairs

Tripoli Military Situation — The Syria-backed opponents of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat bombarded areas in Tripoli held by 'Arafat's forces and occupied positions north of the city 500 meters from 'Arafat's headquarters, according to Radio Monte Carlo reports on the fighting over the weekend. Beirut radio said the battle for Al-Baddawi abated early on 21 November after 'Arafat's forces withdrew. Meanwhile, Turbul Voice of Palestinian Revolution radio reported that the "forces of the revolution and the uprising" remained firmly in control of the camp and continued to advance along the approaches to Tripoli, "tightening the noose" around 'Arafat's men and Islamic Unification Movement forces.

'Arafat's aides announced that the Syrians used T-72 tanks to provide artillery cover for older Soviet tanks engaged in the attacks, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, dissident sources cited by the radio said unidentified warships shelled their positions.

'Arafat's Position — Yasir 'Arafat rejected former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami's call for the withdrawal of all Palestinian fighters from Tripoli, AFP reported on 18 November. According to Baghdad Voice of PLO, 'Arafat told the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS* that his departure from Tripoli would be "very easy" but that it is not a topic for discussion at present because he will remain in Lebanon to defend the revolution's independence.

Syria

"When the Americans attack" Syria, it will "retaliate with all suitable means," Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas announced. Talas, speaking in an interview with the magazine *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI* cited by Radio Free Lebanon, added that Syrian fighter pilots are "ready to carry out suicide missions" against U.S. warships. He also said Syria has surface-to-surface missiles with a 300-km range "capable of dealing strikes deep inside Israel," but denied that the missiles in question are SS-21's.

Responding to the Jordanian restrictions on travel to Syria, a "responsible source" in the Syrian Interior Ministry expressed "deep regret" over these "shameful measures," which were adopted for the purpose of "confiscating the Jordanian citizens' public liberties and harrassing them and their interests under cover of fragile security lies," Damascus television reported. The source noted that this action is part of the Jordanian regime's "feverish campaigns" against Syria, which "coincide with the Israeli and U.S. threats."

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced that Iranian forces launched another attack west and southwest of Panjwin 19-20 November with the aim of stabilizing their positions and capturing a major Iraqi road. During the operation "hundreds" of Iraqis were killed or wounded. Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio reported that the Iranian attackers were wiped out after the attack was contained "in its first hours," at a cost of 10,984 Iranians killed and very large numbers wounded.

A military spokesman, cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, said Iraqi planes and naval units destroyed seven "naval targets" and one plane near Khark Island on 21 November. The London weekly *AL-MAJALLAH* reported that the USSR recently supplied Iraq with Scud-B surface-to-surface missiles which Iraq plans to use against Iranian oil installations on the island.

Iraq

Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz departed Baghdad on 20 November for Moscow for talks with Soviet officials on bilateral relations and the situation in the Gulf, according to INA and TASS.

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Prime Minister Chairs Nonaligned Meeting on PLO

BK181020 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister has said that the present crisis in the Palestine Liberation Organization is a matter of regret and alarm with dangerous potential for the future of the Nonaligned Movement as well as others. Mrs Gandhi was inaugurating 2-day ministerial level meeting of an eight-member nonaligned committee on Palestine which she has convened as the chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement. The committee was set up at the last summit.

She said the last few months have brought unfortunate developments in West Asia which affect peace in that region and elsewhere. The matter is most urgent.

Mrs Gandhi recalled her contacts with Arab leaders who had also expressed concern over the situation. She told the ministers that she had convened their meeting at a crucial juncture so that they [could] give thought to what can be done. The committee would consider the immediate task of a cease-fire and embarking on the process of reconcilliation.

Mrs Gandhi noted that this is far from easy. The prime minister underlined the fact that the PLO has spearheaded the struggle of the Palestinian people and said the Nonaligned Movement will stand solidly behind it.

The eight-member committee is charged with the task of working for a just and durable peace in West Asia. Today's meeting was attended by all eight members. Besides India, there were Mr Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Political Department of the PLO; the Cuban foreign minister, Mr Isidoro Malmierca; the Algerian commerce minister, Mr Abdelaziz Khellef; the Bangladesh education minister, Mr Majid Khan; the Yugoslav foreign minister, Mr Lazar Mojsov; the permanent representative of Senegal in New York, Ambassador Sarre; and Ambassador (Kangwa) of Zambia.

After the inaugural ceremony, the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao presided over the meeting.

On behalf of the PLO chairman, Mr 'Arafat, and the Executive Committee of the organization, Mr Qaddumi thanked the prime minister for her initiative in convening the meeting. The meeting will continue tomorrow.

Team Leaves for Kuwait, Syria

BK210658 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] A four-nation nonaligned ministrial team on Palestinians has left New Delhi for Kuwait and Damascus to make efforts to bring about unity in the PLO ranks. The team comprises the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, and ministers from Cuba, Yugoslavia, and Senegal.

Talking to the All-India Radio correspondent at the airport, Mr Narasimha Rao said that the team is visiting the two countries in pursuance of the decision taken at the 2-day meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's foreign ministers committee on Palestinians in New Delhi which ended on Saturday. He expressed the hope that the visit will contribute to the achievements of the objectives set up by the meeting.

As the chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement, Mrs Gandhi asked the four-nation group to visit some Arab capitals and report back to her on the recent developments. At the meeting it was felt that some immediate action should be taken at this critical juncture to strengthen the unity of the PLO and ensure its independence.

AFP: Gandhi-Deng Summit Slated for Mid-1984

BK200831 Hong Kong AFP in English 0722 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 20 (AFP) — A summit meeting between top Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is slated for mid-1984, *THE HINDUSTAN TIMES* reported today.

The suggestion for the summit, "for a final solution of all outstanding problems" between the two countries, came from the Chinese Government delegation which visited New Delhi last month to discuss longstanding border disputes, the daily said.

India would reportedly like the meeting to be held in New Delhi while the Chinese Government has said it is willing to extend an open invitation to Mrs Gandhi to visit Beijing.

All plans will be finalized after the next round of Sino-Indian border talks in Beijing in the next couple of months, the paper said.

A primary constraint in the way of a Sino-Indian summit so far had been the Chinese desire that President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan also take part, as Beijing considers the border dispute has to be trilaterally solved, it said.

The Indian Government is said to have emphasized that border disputes could only be solved bilaterally and there was no question of letting a third country join in.

Accordingly, the two sides are now for the first time approaching the border dispute, which dates back to the early 1960's, sector by sector rather than as a whole.

Both India and China are willing to discuss all outstanding problems except those relating to parts of disputed territory in "azad (independent) Kashmir" that India as well as Pakistan claims as its own. The Chinese-built Karakoram highway lies on this disputed territory.

The Indian and Chinese teams agreed on the sector approach at their latest round of talks as Delhi was not willing to concede Pakistan's claim to the disputed territory, the paper said.

The Chinese, meanwhile, have indicated that they will try and act as the "honest broker" in India's border dispute with Pakistan, the daily added.

Pakistani Interference Charge Reiterated
BK181419 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr A.A. Rahim, said the government has evidence of Pakistan's interference in the Punjab situation and its involvement with extremists and terrorist elements. He said allegations made by Pakistani leaders of Indian interference in their internal matters are totally baseless.

Rao Comments on Harpoon Missile 'Threat'
BK181443 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] India will take appropriate measures to counter the threat to its security by the proposed supply of Harpoon missiles to Pakistan by the United States. Stating this during question time in the Rajya Sabha, the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, expressed concern at the supply of a patently offensive weapon system to Pakistan. He said that it will tilt the balance of power resulting in greater tension in this zone.

Replying to a supplementary, the minister said it has been pointed out to the U.S. Government on a number of occasions that the supply of these weapons will destabilize peace in the region, but they have not recognized the fact.

Official Says Modern Weaponry Systems Developed
BK200929 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] The Instrument Research and Development Establishment [IRDE] has developed several modern weaponry systems. A complete weapon control system has been developed for the main battle tank. The prototype assembly will roll out next year. Disclosing this to newsmen, the director of the establishment, Dr (Hridaynath) said the system will give the capability to operate day and night and control the gun to the highest degree of accuracy. IRDE has also developed a large number of night vision and laser instruments for the Armed Forces.

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Special Envoy Continues Talks With Tamils
BK191702 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister's special envoy, Mr G. Parthasarathy, continued his discussions today in New Delhi with the Sri Lankan Tamil leaders on the tentative proposals for a possible solution of the Tamils' problems. The proposals had emerged from Mr Parthasarathy's discussions with President Jayewardene in Colombo recently. The Tamil United Liberation Front leaders, Mr Sivatithamparam, Mr Amirthalingam, and the Sri Lanka minister, Mr S. Thondaman representing Tamilians of Indian origin took part in the discussion.

Punjab Police Alerted After Bus Hijack, Shooting
BK191009 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] In Punjab, four passengers of a bus were shot dead by some unidentified persons near (Khadarajputa) in Amritsar District last night. Assailants earlier hijacked the bus which was on its way to Moga from Amritsar. They escaped in the bus after disembarking the other passengers.

The inspector general of police, Mr P.S. Bhinder, said in Chandigarh this morning that police all over the state has [as heard] been alerted and vigorous efforts are on to check the culprits.

Political Leaders Comment
BK191656 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Leaders of various political parties have condemned the dastardly murder of four persons by unidentified assailants last night near Amritsar. The Akali Dal president, Mr Harchand Singh Longowal, said in Amritsar today that the murder was an inhuman act and deserved all condemnation. Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale said in Amritsar that he is against such actions and has nothing to do with it.

Strike Called
BK210955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] In Punjab, the response to the call for bundh [strike] is almost complete. The bundh call to protest against the killings of four innocent persons on Friday night in Amritsar District has been given by the Bharatiya Janata Party and its [word indistinct] the Akali Dal.

According to official reports reaching Chindigarh no untoward incidents have been reported.

Attempt To Kill Assam Chief Minister Foiled
BK191601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] An attempt to kill the Assam chief minister, Mr Hiteswar Saikia, was foiled by a police official in Gauhati this evening. The abortive attempt was made while Mr Saikia was about to board the car accompanied by his wife at the Rabindra Bhavan at the end of a public function.

A young man whipped out a revolver and aimed at the chief minister from a point-blank range, but a plainclothed policeman, who was with Mr Saikia, grabbed him and snatched away the weapon before he could fire. The young man has been identified as a student of the Assam Enginnering College and has been held for questioning by the police. Security measures have been tightened in Gauhati and other parts of Assam.

Inquiry Ordered

BK200859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] The Assam Government has decided to hold a high-level inquiry into the attempt on the life of the chief minister, Mr Hiteswar Saikia. The state Cabinet met in an emergency meeting in Gauhati last night. It expressed profound shock over the incident.

Several political leaders in the state have also condemned the attempt on the life of Mr Saikia.

AFP: 400 Supporters of Maneka Group Arrested

BK191535 Hong Kong AFP in English 1406 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 19 (AFP) — About 400 supporters of the Rashtriya Sanjay Manch (SVM [as received] — Sanjay National Forum) led by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's daughter-in-law Maneka were arrested here today when they tried to stage a protest march to the premier's official residence, police said.

Manch General Secretary J.N. Mishraa read out a statement before the arrests which said that the prime minister was seeking to "impose" an heir — apparently her elder son Rajiv Gandhi, who gave up a commercial pilot's career and emerged as a politician following the death of his younger brother Sanjay in an air crash in 1980.

Police stopped the demonstrators on their way to Mrs. Gandhi's house and booked them for violation of prohibitory orders which are in force around the capital's Federal Parliament complex. There was no violence, the police said.

Rajiv Gandhi is now national general secretary of the ruling Congress Party and a member of the Federal Parliament.

He was elected in a by-election in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh State, the seat held by his younger brother in the last general elections in 1980 and made vacant by his death.

Police Arrest 16 Congress-I Workers in Jammu

BK201607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] In Jammu, police arrested 16 Congress-I workers demonstrating against the state government this afternoon at Shalimer Chowk where the chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, inaugurated a clock tower. They were protesting against the alleged discrimination against the Jammu region and failure of state government to solve the people's problems.

Afghan Pilot Lands Aircraft, Surrenders

BK201553 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] According to an official spokesman, an Afghan fighter aircraft (?Su-7) landed in Pakistan at 1045 this morning. The pilot of the plane surrendered to local authorities immediately after landing.

The pilot said he came from Afghanistan as a strong protest against the policies of the puppet regime of Kabul.

Vote Against UN Cypriot Resolution Noted

BK190939 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] The UN Security Council last night approved a resolution which opposed the unilateral declaration of independence by Turkish Cypriots. Pakistan voted against the resolution. Cypriot leader Rauf Denktas said before the voting that he would ignore the council resolution as it had no moral or legal value and it could not be implemented. He said the Security Council could not take away the right to self-determination from the people who expressed it.

Pakistani Ambassador at the United Nations Shahnawaz also opposed the passing of the resolution at the Security Council and said that the cooperation of Turkish Cypriots is very important to restore the unity of Cyprus. He said the Turkish Cypriot community has reaffirmed the desire for continuation of the secretary general's mission for the resumption of negotiations. The secretary general, he said, has also expressed his readiness to resume his mission.

Spokesman Calls Gandhi Allegations 'Baseless'

BK171555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Nov 83

[Text] An official spokesman in Islamabad today described as totally baseless the allegations made by the Indian prime minister in a statement in parliament yesterday. In her statement, the Indian prime minister said India had circumstantial evidence of involvement of Pakistani and other agents behind the recent disturbances in some parts of India. The spokesman said no such incident was brought to the knowledge of the Government of Pakistan. The spokesman added that the Indian prime minister's reported statement was all the more amazing because at the same time the governor of the Indian state of Punjab was cited as saying that the state government did not know anything in particular on the basis of which it could be said that there was any foreign hand in recent incidents in the state.

The spokesman reaffirmed that Pakistan firmly adheres to the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, including India.

Yaqub Khan Comments on Relations With India

BK200958 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that Pakistani-Indian relations recently faced obstacles and difficulties because of Indian Government leaders' statements which amount to interference in the internal affairs of Pakistan. Talking to newsmen in Washington, the foreign minister stressed: We scrupulously pursue the policy of noninterference despite pressure to raise a voice against the massacre of Muslims in India; we refrain from commenting on others' affairs as well.

AFP: JUP Launches Direct Action Program

BK190104 Hong Kong AFP in English 0054 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 18 (AFP) — Pakistan's main religious party Jamiat-ul Ulema Pakistan (JUP) today launched a "direct action programme" against the military regime of General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, the first religious group to come out openly against the military regime.

Speaking in Lahore today JUP Secretary General Maulana Abdul Sattar Niazi Tsaid theatened to call a general strike if the regime did not listen to the opposition's demands.

JUP yesterday held protest meetings inside mosques throughout the country at which speakers strongly condemned the continuation of martial law. They demanded restoration of civil rule and immediate release of hundreds of people arrested during the current protest campaign by the nine-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD). The MRD campaign has so far been confined to the province of Sind, in the south, but observers believe that the JUP's direct action programme could spark off protests in the country's main cities where it is influential.

Meanwhile, police today arrested acting secretary general of the centrist Tehriq-i-Istiqlal Party, Asif Fasihuddin Wardak, an active supporter of the MRD campaign, while he was on way from Peshawar to Lahore, party sources said.

MRD Solidarity Week Termed 'Complete Failure'

GF191039 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 14 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Lahore 13 Nov (APP) — The MRD's so-called Solidarity Week has ended and it was a complete failure. It had no impact on the public whatsoever.

According to reports from various parts of Punjab Province, the people ignored the MRD's activities, and except for some members of this so-called campaign, the people were quite unaware of the activities of the movement. The MRD tried to stage its show in the federal capital but it proved unsuccessful and failed to enlist the support of the people.

Political Leader Cites MRD Policies
GF201536 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 15 Nov 83 p 1

[By staff correspondent]

[Excerpts] Karachi, 14 November: The president of the defunct Jamiat-ul-Ulema-i-Islam, Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, said that the present silence and inertia in the MRD's campaign is the lull before the storm. Even now there is time for the government to display some sagacity, to announce elections immediately, and to desist from further provocations. He was speaking to the *NAWA-E WAQT* correspondent here today.

While opposing the holding of elections on a nonparty basis, he said: All the political parties are unanimous that elections should be held on a party basis and according to the 1973 Constitution. Hence, they should be announced immediately and power should be delegated to the chosen representatives of the people.

Commenting on the Tehrik-i-Istiqlal Party's statement on participation in nonparty elections, he said: It does not seem to be such an unprincipled party that it will forsake its associates and join in the elections.

PPP Announces Terms for Election Participation
GF190702 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 83 p 7

[Text] Makhdoom Amin Fahim, acting chairman of the defunct Pakistan People's Party, has said his party would take part in the elections, if held strictly under the rules and regulations provided in the 1973 Constitution.

In a statement yesterday, he said all political parties should be allowed to participate in the polls which should be held within 90 days.

Meanwhile, Maulana Abdur Razzak Aziz, central information secretary of the defunct Jamiat-ul-Ulema-i-Islam, in a statement said that those elected on non-party basis would promote their individualistic, petty interests.

DAWN Reports on Processions, Arrests
GF180816 Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Sukkur, Nov 12: About 50 to 60 MRD supporters assembled at Memon Masjid in Shamsabad area here today. Speakers addressed them and later the MRD supporters came out of the mosque in the form of a procession. They were carrying small sticks.

The magistrate on duty repeatedly asked them to disperse peacefully but they refused. Subsequently, the police had to use teargas shells to disperse them.

Some people again went to the mosque and pelted stones at the police. The hide-and-seek between the police and MRD workers continued till night. Later the police took 10 persons into custody.

At 11 p.m. there was a big blast in New Sukkur at clock Tower area. No further details, however, could be available.

In Khairpur, university students today took out procession and pelted stones at the police. Later they tried to hold a public meeting at Punch Panjgullah Chowk, but the police used teargas shells to disperse them.

Two student Leaders have been arrested by the police.

'All-Pakistan Citizens Congress' Formed
GF210522 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 11 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Rawalpindi, 10 Nov (PPI) — Retired General Azam Khan, one-time governor of East Pakistan, announced today the founding of a new nonpolitical party led by him. The new party will be called the All-Pakistan Citizens Congress. Gen Azam Khan announced this at a press conference today.

Delhi Says Gaffar Khan's Detention Extended
BK180344 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] Pakistan's martial law authorities are reported to have extended the detention of the Frontier Gandhi, Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan, for an indefinite period.

An agency report from Islamabad says that the detention of the leader of the banned National Democratic Party, Mr Jahan Shed Siddiqui, has also bee extended indefinitely.

Badshah Khan was taken into custody soon after the 9-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy launched its campaign in August this year.

Khomeyni Addresses Supreme Judicial Council

LD201519 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni address to members of Supreme Judicial Council and other judicial officials at Jamaran Mosque on 20 November -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I thank you gentlemen of the clergy and judicial officials who have come here and honored me with your visit. I hope that God will protect you all and grant you success in your services.

I would like to say that today, when we are plagued by various problems, different forces, and superpowers, we should try to guard ourselves in all respects. You see that problems are created for Islam everywhere. They give Islam different names and plot against it. At first, we thought that it was only Saddam who with every defeat retaliated and attacked Khuzestan and Kordestan. We thought these were Saddam mannerisms. But now, it is clear that there are many who are inclined that way. A number of people, because of the harm done to them by superpowers — America, France, Israel, and the like — decide to sacrifice themselves for their nation and blow up a building. Then, Israel retaliates. Everyone expects such reaction from Israel; it is in its nature to act as it does.

But France, which considers itself a great nation and has made great declarations throughout history, should not act like terrorists. The French nation should realize that with all the books written in praise of France in the past, this government has disgraced France at this juncture. The Government of France has disgraced the nation of France, has presented an ugly face to the eyes of the world. Most of the oppressed people do not differentiate the government from the nation, especially where there is a republican regime at work. Where there is a republic, the nation takes the matter in hand. It will not be accepted from the French nation if it claims that the fault lies with its government.

The nation of France should try to restore its honor by putting its government in its place. This government should be dispensed with. It is a government of archterrorists, since all terrorists gather in France and then the goverment embarks on terrorist acts, a government which takes revenge on other people because of someone else's actions. The nation of France should think of a remedy. Other nations should do the same.

The fault of other nations with a republican regime is that they elect such people and once they are elected they take over. Now, the nation should stage demonstrations and get rid of them. They can still do it. The French nation should guard the reputation of France, which has been built through history. The Government of France acts against Iran when it sees that Iraq is unable to repay its debts. Why Iran? If Iraq is unable to repay your debts, you should take measures against it. Why do you give it these planes which enable it to strike against Iran?

This is the situation as it stands; governments act against the wishes of their nations. I do not believe that the American nation agrees with the interfering acts of the American Government, which result in the deaths of their youths. The same applies to France and other countries. Now Britain has entered the arena as well and is showing its face among others.

The great powers of the world have gathered and are doing harm to the people. Britain and France have joined them and claim to be of the clan. Why is the situation as it is? What have the superpowers gained, what honor has been restored to them? What have the Governments of America and Russia, who commit these crimes and compete with each other in their crimes and suppressing the people, gained from their acts that you wish to also gain by staying with them? The Muslims and Arabs, who form the bulk of the Muslim population and are caught in the hands of these powers, should realize that they should not allow them to be in charge.

Look what they have done to Lebanon; there is hardly anything left of it. Why do you continue your differences which cause these powers to interfere? Why should they do so much harm to people and claim that they are correcting the situation? This is not correcting the situation.

If you were trying to do good, you would have been better off. You go to Lebanon claiming to be lovers of peace and then do harm to the people. If you leave the people alone, they will correct everything themselves. You do not allow the people to deal with their own problems. Each of these powers enters a country under a pretext, for example the USSR entered Afghanistan under the pretext of straightening things out. America, France, and Britain entered Lebanon to correct things. This is happening because the Muslims are not aware; the governments of Muslims do not realize what power they have and how they can annihilate them. If the Muslims stop their resources from going to the East or the West, then these powers will be put in their places. But unfortunately, they do not know what they are capable of doing. They have been told to fear the consequences of such actions. These threats were leveled against Iran, too. But Iran did what was necessary and they were unable to retaliate. They have not been able to do anything to Iran and will not be able to do anything in the future, either.

Unfortunately, because of the stupidity of some leaders, they succeed in creating confrontations. They made Saddam attack Iran, suffer so much damage and hardships, harm the nation of Iraq in such a way, all because of a stupid notion that he could become the commander of Qadesiyyah.

On the other side, they have made the Palestinians fight among themselves. And, on the other hand, there is discord between the governments [word indistinct]. Why should such a situation exist? If they wake up and realize what power they have, what resources they have available to them, if they realize that they hold the lifeline of the superpowers, they would befriend each other and establish friendly relations. We keep urging them to be friends with each other. But they say that Iran is trying to annihilate all the countries of the world. Why should Iran want such a thing?

Peace be upon you all.

Leaders Comment on Ba'labakk Attack, Lebanon

Prime Minister Musavi

LD201514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Correspondent's dispatch on 20 November Cabinet session]

[Excerpts] The country's current issues, the notes attached to the budget bill of the year 1362 [year ending 20 March 1984], and the political situation in the region — particularly in Lebanon — were the issues raised in this morning's Cabinet session chaired by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. At the conclusion of today's session, Prime Minister Musavi gave us an interview.

[Begin recording] [Musavi] Regarding reports, the most important was the issue of the savage bombings of the Al-Biqa' Valley and Ba'labakk by Israel, France, and possibly the United States, which were carried out in two stages. Many aircraft took part in this action, which reveals the imperialist forces' anger at the faithful and Muslim Lebanese forces, which with reliance on Islamic slogans are currently struggling for the liberation of Lebanon and Jerusalem. A number of our beloved and courageous guards brothers were martyred in this bombing, whose bodies will be brought home to Tehran today, [correcting himself] tomorrow, and buried in a formal funeral procession.

The important thing to be stated in this connection is that for the first time we are witnessing Israel — in spite of its huge propaganda effort along with other powers to present the revolution as dependent in some way or another — in fact being dragged into this armed position, through this desperate move, against the Islamic Revolution. But since the Islamic Revolution belongs to a deep historic current in the Muslims' destiny, Israel and Zionism naturally confronted this great historic movement and this will lead to the blossoming and growth of the extensive struggle of all Muslims against Israel and to the Islamization of the struggle against Zionism and imperialism in the region.

The Zionists' complicity with France and their anger in this matter are considerable. In this connection, we think that the Islamic Republic has demonstrated its power in practice. This will further the blossoming and growth of the anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist movements. By adopting such a position, Israel has, in fact, been forced to foil all its previous propaganda. We believe that this move indicates the world outlook and internationalism of our Islamic Revolution. It is natural for us to help Muslim and Shi'ite brothers there and to be alongside them; this is one of the aims of our Islamic Revolution. But the method chosen by Israel will naturally strengthen the determination of our nation, government, and combative brothers for struggle against Israel, or more generally against Zionism and America in the world, and against the other powers who are fighting against our Islamic Revolution and are enemies of it.

[Correspondent] Regarding the explicit confessions of the interventionist forces in Lebanon that the Shi'ites supporting the Islamic Revolution are a barrier to the enemy's domination in Lebanon, what would the position of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran toward the truth-seeking move of this group be?

[Musavi] We do not consider the movement there as separate from us. Muslims are a single nation and act accordingly throughout the world. We see no difference between Jerusalem and Khorramshahr; there is no difference between a corner of the great Islamic homeland in the world and a corner in our country. Our (?argument) is based on faith. The destinies of all captive Muslims are now linked, and as we consider the progress in our Islamic Revolution as belonging to all the world of Islam, naturally we consider any movement in the world of Islam as related to us. We feel that any blow against Muslims or any oppression of them is related to us, and this can very well explain our relation with the moves in Lebanon. [end recording]

Ayatollah Meshkini

LD181946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Excerpts] This week's political and religious Friday prayers were held in the presence of the minister of interior, the Islamic Revolution prosecutor general, a group of state officials, a large number of military and police personnel, a group of theologians, and a large crowd of people from various walks of life. Prayers were led by Ayatollah Meshkini.

Ayatollah Meshkini referred to the struggle of the Lebanese nation against the superpowers: Our brothers in Lebanon have, thank God, moved against their satan and the satan followers of the era. They have dealt a heavy blow to Reagan with the recent explosions. The aggressors and the Zionists have connected these acts with Iranians because of their weakness in being afraid of Iranians. It is very strange that, in today's world, people who make speeches in large gatherings and at the so-called United Nations condemn these acts but there is no one to ask: What were America and France doing in Lebanon when this catastrophe happened to them? There is no one to ask if the Lebanese nation allowed these people to enter Lebanon. Who permitted them? Did Amin al-Jumayyil — who is the enemy of the nation, and the nation does not want him — permit them to enter? The worst government at present is the Lebanese Government because the worst government is that which wages war against its own nation for the sake of the agents of colonialism and satans. That is the Government of Lebanon. The best of governments is that which wages war against satans and superpowers, that is, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, your government.

Ayatollah Meshkini then quoted Imam 'Ali, peace be upon him, and said: If there are oppressed people in the world, wherever they might be, we announce here and now that we will help them and will stand against the oppressors, be it in Palestine, Eritrea, or Afghanistan where they have risen against dictators or in Lebanon and other places in the world where the oppressed have risen against the oppressors. We will help the oppressed and those rising against the oppressors and will continue to do so.

President Khamene'i

GF181619 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov 18, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i today expressed grief over the Zionist and French attacks on Lebanese Muslims but also praised the Lebanese people for resisting their enemies.

Speaking in Tehran's Friday prayers ceremony, President Khamene'i said that the attacks had been carried out against civilian areas in Lebanon.

Zionist aircraft attacked civilian Muslims near the city of Ba'labakk, northeast of Lebanon, on Wednesday and were followed by 14 attacking French aircraft on Thursday.

(I would like to) express regret over the bombardment of the residential areas by the Zionists and by the invaders in Lebanon.

Unfortunately the American and French threats to retaliate after the explosion of the headquarters of the American and French forces has been realised in the worst possible manner. The people (of Lebanon) have been bombed.

The people of Lebanon, whom a great part of their country is under the boots of their enemies, are oppressed by racist and monopolist Phalangists in some parts (of Lebanon) and are bombed by foreign aircraft in other parts (of their country).

We express regret and condolences for this event to our dear Muslim brothers and sisters in Lebanon who are struggling, fighting and sacrificing for the preservance of the independence of this Islamic nation.

Of course we also congratulate them because they have angered their enemies in such a way with their identity and resistance.

Oh God, bring victory and success to all of our brothers and sisters who are struggling against arrogance in any part of the great Islamic nation, the president said.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD201123 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov 20, IRNA — The Zionist and French attacks on Ba'labakk has left 14 Islamic revolution's guards martyred, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said today.

The speaker said that 30 other Lebanese Muslim revolutionaries had also been martyred in the attacks.

"With all its cruelty (the Zionist and French attacks) only succeeded in martyring 14 of our dear, revolutionary and mujahid soldiers who were there to help the Lebanese people and a considerable number, about 30 or more, of the Lebanese people were martyred and a small group were wounded," he said.

Speaker Rafsanjani said that a French Super Etendard aircraft had been shot down in Thursday's attack which was coordinated with the Zionists and said that more details would be announced later.

It is one of the important issues of this century, he said, that the innocent people in Ba'labakk, who were interested in the Islamic revolution of Iran, were attacked by the powerful and sophisticated capabilities of the NATO forces in order to suppress the Islamic revolution and support the usurper Zionists.

Imam Khomeyni's representative in the Supreme Defence Council said that the Arab regimes were glad to see the Zionist attack on a city in an Islamic nation only because the Islamic Republic of Iran was attacked in one way or the other.

The Arab regimes, he added, had also been forced to disown their propaganda of the past three years that the Islamic Republic was receiving arms from the Zionist regime, due to pressures from Lebanese revolutionaries and the recent suppression of the Iranian forces by Zionists in Lebanon.

"We are honoured to see that with the presence of a few of our forces for the purpose of helping the people of Lebanon, we have had so many achievements for our people, for our revolution and for the world," Speaker Rafsanjani said.

The bodies of the Islamic combatants would be accompanied to Damascus Monday and they would be welcomed in Iran in a ceremony later on Monday or Tuesday, he said.

Further Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD201246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] The Islamic Majlis held an open session this morning, chaired by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who said:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As you have been informed, very important events have taken place in Lebanon recently, to which we must draw the attention of the honorable deputies, our beloved nation, and the other nations of the world.

Taking advantage of the reconnaissance which had been carried out previously by U.S. satellites and photographing aircraft, Israeli and French aircraft carried out two separate but concerted raids in a calculated plan against the defenseless and oppressed Ba'albakk region. They covered the defenseless people of that region in dust and blood on the charge of having an interest in the Iranian Islamic Revolution. This is one of the most important issues of the century. Using their powerful and sophisticated capability, NATO states carry out acts like this in east Lebanon in order to crush the Iranian Islamic Revolution and to support usurping Israel.

The important points in this treason of the century are conphenationsiderable: Firstly, the inability of the Western powers, despite all their espionage resources, to identify the agent of the explosion of the U.S., French, and Israeli command headquarters in Lebanon. According to their own

confessions the CIA, Mossad,and the intelligence service are unable to identify those responsible for that great work, those who dealt that crushing blow to the NATO and Israeli forces in Lebanon. To compensate for their helplessness before their nations, which had put them under interrogation, they attempted an action which is much uglier than their helplessness. Twenty-four ultra modern aircraft took part in suppressing this defenseless people — 10 Israeli and 14 French aircraft, including Super Etendards, F-14's, Mirages, and Phantoms. The interesting point is that despite all their cruelty in this attack they only managed to martyr 14 of our beloved, revolutionary and crusading forces — who are helping the Lebanese nation there — and to martyr a considerable number, about 30 or more, Lebanese, including a small number of wounded. They destroyed many houses and made a large number of people homeless. Fortunately, one of the French Super Etendard aircraft was set on fire by the combatants of the people of Lebanon, accurate details of which will, God willing, be announced later.

The important factor in this great crime is that world arrogance is maintaining a very ugly silence in the face of the NATO attack on the Muslim people of the city of Ba'labakk. Even Italy, which was prepared to condemn it, again went back on its condemnation under NATO pressure last night. Instead of revealing the intense weakness of NATO and the Western world to them, the world mass media are raising the issue of taking revenge on a nation which has not been proved to have participated in those explosions.

Another issue which saddens us is that instead of condemning this crime for the fact that Israel attacked a city in the Islamic country of Lebanon, the Islamic and Arab world and Arab governments are expressing their delight because the Islamic Republic of Iran has in some way fallen victim to this aggression.

Yet another issue which can today be a cause for honor for us is that under pressure of the combatants of Lebanon they were forced to refute all their previous propaganda in which they accuse us of obtaining arms from Israel, because Israel has attacked the Lebanese people in order to crush our forces. The Iranian Islamic Revolution has given them such a nightmare that NATO forces have entered the region in the name of peace, but are fighting alongside Israel against the people. This is a sign of weakness, terror, anger, and disgust and a violation of all international norms.

We are proud that with the presence of some of our forces giving help to the people of Lebanon we have managed to make so many achievements for our nation, our revolution, and the world. I hereby announce to the brother deputies and the people that, God willing, tomorrow the bodies of our beloved compatriots will be dispatched from (?Syria) in a formal ceremony. Tomorrow or the following day, we will welcome in Iran these bodies and these angels who went to save the people of Palestine. [end recording]

Physicians Dispatched To Treat Lebanon Victims

GF191727 Tehran IRNA in English 1624 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 19, IRNA — A team of Iranian physicians headed by Dr. Delshad left for Syria Friday to treat the wounded of the recent attack on Lebanon by the Zionist regime and the French interventionist forces.

The physicians were despatched by the Islamic Republic Health Ministry and the Iranian Red Crescent Society and comprise surgeons, orthopedists and anesthetists to provide the necessary assistance to the wounded of the latest attack on the Lebanese Muslims in Ba'labakk.

Also accompanying the group is a high official of the Iranian Red Crescent Society.

Defense Minister Briefs President 19 November

LD191513 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel Salimi this morning met with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the republic and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council. He submitted a report to the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council on his visit to the operational zone of the (?Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada) Headquarters and issues concerning his ministry.

'Victories in Less Than Month'

GF191710 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 19, IRNA — Defence Minister Mohammad Salimi said Friday that there would be news of greater victories in the battlefronts in less than a month. He said it was the order of the leader of the revolution and the plan of the Supreme Defence Council to continue the Val Fajr operations against Iraq.

Colonel Salimi was quoted by the reporter of the daily *KEYHAN* as saying at the Friday prayers ceremony on Babol, Mazandaran Province, that one of the blessings of the war was that the Islamic Republic arrived at a better understanding of its neighbours.

It is not in the interest of the southern littoral countries of the Persian Gulf to cooperate with Saddam at a time when he is so near the end of his ominous life, he said.

Colonel Salimi was also quoted as saying that the Iraqi attacks on Iranian civilian areas was due to Iraq's loss of initiative in the war.

Communique Cites Successes of Panjwin Offensive

LD201112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Communique No 25 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpt] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The powerful combatants of Islam — consisting of brothers from the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, self-sacrificing servicemen of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and the Mobilization Unit — in the continuation of the third phase of the

victorious Val-Fajr IV operations last night attacked deep inside the positions and assembly centers of the Zionist enemy forces west and southwest of Panjwin in order to repair and stabilize their positions in the operational zone, to destroy the enemy forces, and to capture the Panjwin-Sayyid Sadiq main road in Iraq.

They succeeded in inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the enemy. In the course of these victorious operations the 2d Battalion of the 49th Iraqi Brigade and four other companies of the enemy forces were destroyed in this region, and hundreds of their personnel were killed or wounded; several enemy commanders could be seen among the dead. Our powerful forces also destroyed 60 percent of the 2d Battalion of the 36th Iraqi Brigade.

Heavy fighting continues in the operational zone. The forces of Islam's fire on enemy positions is inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the enemy forces.

[Unsigned]

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,546

LD181743 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,546 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The situation on the battlefronts of the imposed war is brought to the attention of our dear compatriots.

During the past 24 hours, sporadic artillery fire continued in the Val-Fajr IV operational zone and the Piranshahr and Hajj 'Umran sectors between our mighty combatants and the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries. While maintaining their superior firepower, our forces continued to consolidate their defensive positions, and by monitoring and controlling the movements of the Saddamist forces, inflicted losses and casualties on them. Our forces also neutralized the enemy's patrol operations by dispatching their own patrol groups. Our patrol groups also discovered enemy defensive positions.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued on the western and southern fronts and were more intense in the Qasr-e Shirin and Mehran regions. Our forces defended their own positions on these fronts, opened artillery and other heavy weapons fire on enemy positions and units, and destroyed enemy positions on each of the fronts. The Iraqi forces suffered losses and casualties.

Our forces on the western fronts destroyed several enemy trenches and foxholes and succeeded in setting on fire and destroying two ammunition dumps, a parking lot containing several vehicles, and equipment belonging to the Saddamist mercenaries. Our forces in the Meymak region opened fire on an enemy patrol group trying to penetrate our defensive positions. The enemy patrol suffered some losses and were forced to flee.

The braver warriors of the Gendarmerie on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts returned enemy fire, pounding their positions and fortifications. Thanks to the fire of our Gendarmerie warriors, a number of enemy troops were either killed or wounded, the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries were silenced, and more than nine of their trenches and gun emplacements were set on fire and destroyed.

The fire of the hireling Saddam's criminal mercenaries on the city of Abadan yesterday inflicted damage on the city.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,547

LD191745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,547 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In the Val-Fajr IV operational sector yesterday, the combative forces of Islam, retaining full control of their own defensive positions and the regions under their protection, crushed enemy movements by opening intense artillery fire. On the Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts,our forces dispatched patrol groups, set up observation posts, and monitored enemy movements. Our forces' fire on positions and fortifications of the Saddamists silenced enemy fire, halted Iraqi engineering activities and movements, and set fire to three of their ammunition depots.

A number of the enemy patrol elements attempted to penetrate our forces' positions in the Sumar region, but the vigilance and fire of our forces forced them to retreat. Exchanges of fire continued yesterday on the southern fronts and were more intense in the (Zeyd) and Kuskh sectors. The forces of Islam located and identified enemy patrol groups in the region south of Kushk. Our forces' fire inflicted losses on the enemy patrol groups and forced them to retreat. In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational sector, our combative forces opened fire on enemy positions on the western side of the Arvand Rud, destroying six slit trenches of the Saddamist forces and killing or wounding a number of the aggressors. The enemy's long-range artillery fire on residential districts of Abadan yesterday damaged three shops and a hospital.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,549

LD201831 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,549 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. At 2130 last night, in continuation of the third phase of their operations, the self-sacrificing forces

of Islam destroyed and routed sections of the Iraqi forces and their defensive positions in the Val-Fajr IV operational theater and captured a number of Saddamists. Intense exchanges of fire continue on that front.

On the western fronts, sporadic exchanges of fire continued between our forces and the aggressor Ba'thist forces; gunfire was more intense in the Sumar and Mehran sectors. On those fronts, the proud combatants of Islam continued strengthening their defensive positions; they opened fire, set up observation posts, and dispatched patrol groups, keeping enemy movements under observation. They also silenced enemy fire, prevented enemy movements, and inflicted losses and casualties on them. In their defensive operations, the combatants of Islam destroyed an enemy tank, four lorries, and several light and heavy weapon emplacements and killed or wounded a number of enemy personnel.

On the southern fronts, sporadic exchanges of fire continued. While defending themselves, our combatants continued their battle against the Iraqi forces and inflicted losses and casualties on the Saddamist mercenaries in every sector.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the combatants of Islam fired on enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, silencing enemy fire. They slowed down enemy supply activities and inflicted losses and casualties on them. Abadan again was brought under fire by the Saddamist criminals, resulting in damage to a number of houses and some installations.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Guards Corps Says Rebels 'Annihilated'

LD181741 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] The central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced: Following the blows dealt to the disintegrating corpse of the hypocrites organization's positions in the forests of Gilan and Mazandaran, with the help and cooperation of the Islamic Revolution committees, the prosecutor's office, and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the remainder of this pro-American organization has been annihilated. In this attack, which was coordinated with the Val-Fajr I and IV operations, a large number of the organization's members and supporters in the towns and forests of Gilan and Mazandaran Provinces were either killed or arrested, a number of radio sets, different kinds of ammunition and light weapons, and interorganizational documents indicating the evil conspiracies of the superpowers and of their internal servants were seized.

President Discusses Recent Kordestan Operations

GF181654 Tehran IRNA in English 1641 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA — The Islamic Revolution's Guards have carried out a large-scale operation against counterrevolutionaries in the northern jungles of Iran in the Caspian Sea region as well as in Kordestan and have captured many leaders and members of the rebel groups, President 'Ali Khamene'i said in this week's Friday prayers ceremony here.

The president also expressed sympathy for the Lebanese people for the attacks on their residential areas by Zionist and French aircraft on Wednesday and Thursday. The president said that the Muslim people of Lebanon were the victims of the attacks.

Addressing thousands of people at Tehran University and the surrounding streets and alleys, the president said the operations against the counterrevolutionaries were carried out by the IRGC [Islamic Revolution Guards Corps] today and were aimed at destroying the remaining forces of rebel groups after inflicting heavy blows on them in the Val Fajr-4 operation.

He said the Islamic forces had captured the only rebel supply route which had enabled the rebels to receive supplies from Iraq and create disturbances among the Kurdish population while the country was at war with the Iraqi regime.

Today the counterevolution is cut off from its connection with the outside (Iraq)... The people should know and be happy to hear that roots of the Munafiqeen (MKO) and their allies are withering more and more each day in various parts of the country.

Some (of the counterrevolutionaries) moved to Kordestan when they saw that they could not do anything in the cities, or they went to the jungle areas in the north. Today our brothers in the Islamic Revoluton's Guards pushed the counterrevolutionaries out of the scene in the north of the country and in Kordestan..., the president said.

The IRGC issued an announcement Friday on its operation against the rebels in the Mazandaran and Gilan Province and said that it will give a detailed account of its operation in the near future.

On the Zionist and French attacks of Lebanese civilians near Ba'labakk the president stated that unfortunately the American and French threats to retaliate after the explosion to the headquarters of the American and French forces has been realised in the worst possible fashion. The people (of Lebanon) have been bombed he said. He expressed condolences to the Lebanese Muslim people who, he said, were struggling and sacrificing for the preservance of Lebanon's independence. The president also praised Lebanese people for angering their enemies with their identity and resistance.

On other issues of the country, President Khamene'i emphasised on the popular aspect of the Islamic Republic. He said the people were the main force behind the newly established organisations in the country, such as the Construction Jihad and IRGC and the Housing Foundation. He said the people created the revolution and were now preserving it.

The president said in the early stages of the Iraqi imposed war, when the people had little practical participation, there were many problems and issues. But he said the solid presence of the people in the war fronts had solved these problems.

As long as the people believe that they own the warfronts, and as long as the warfronts depend on the people, nothing can force us to retreat, he said.

The president also spoke about the role of the Islamic associations in the country and emphasised that the management and the Islamic associations should co-exist and cooperate and neither should interfere with the others affairs.

Tabriz Imam Urges Fight Against Minigroups
GF201530 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azeri 1530 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] A group of officials and members of the councils and revolution organizations of Mehabad, namely, the Islamic Propaganda Organization of Mehabad, the Reconstruction Crusade, the support unit of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, the Voice and Vision organization, and officials from the governor's office met with the representative of the imam in Azarbayjan and the Friday imam of Tabriz, Ayatollah Malakuti, on Thursday afternoon. During this meeting, one of the Mehabad clergymen talked about the situation in the area and reported on the activities of the councils and organizations of this city.

Ayatollah Malakuti talked about the activities of the people of Iran in Kordestan: After the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, the Islamic people announced their readiness to serve the Kurdish part of Iran and have acted accordingly. The trees of Islam in Kordestan have been watered one by one with the pure blood of the martyrs of Islam. You have come from different areas of our country to help the Muslim and oppressed Kurds and only God, the Koran, and Islam have made you accept responsibilities in this area and work vigorously. Along with your work, you have gone to this area to raise the standards of education and you should explain your goals on going into this area to the dear Kurdish people. It is your responsibility to explain the devilish objectives of the treacherous minigroups to the Kurds and fight against these groups to serve the Muslim and oppressed people of this area as much as possible.

Tudeh Party Members To Be Tried Openly
LD201147 Tehran IRNA in English 0908 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] Qom, Nov 20 IRNA — Prosecutor General of the Islamic Revolution Seyyed Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi said here Saturday that members of the defunct Tudeh Party would be tried openly. Key members of the defunct Tudeh Party were arrested in April on charges of hatching acts to overthrow the Islamic Republic.

In several televised interviews, members of the defunct Tudeh Party have confessed to their counterrevolutionary measures including espionage for foreign powers especially the Soviet Union.

Seyyed Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi was speaking at the third day of the gathering prepared by the Information Office of Qom Theological School to discuss current issues, especially the forthcoming Majlis elections.

[Words indistinct] the Majlis (parliament) will end by May next year the elections for the second term are due to be held in the first quarter of 1984.

The Islamic revolution's prosecutor general stressed that since the Majlis played a vital role in the Islamic Republic, the Ulema should not be indifferent towards it. Therefore, he added, it was the responsibility of the Ulema to make research and introduce people to be elected as Majlis deputies.

Khomeyni Cancels Appointments 22 Nov - 5 Dec
LD191112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Announcement by Imam Khomeyni's office]

[Text] In His exalted name. It hereby is announced that in accordance with annual practice, from Tuesday, 22 November,until Monday, 5 December 1983, the meetings of His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, may his lofty shadow never recede, will be canceled. The honorable brothers and sisters who have already made appointments for meetings, taking account of this closure period, can refer to the office.

[Signed] Imam Khomeyni's office, 19 November 1983